

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 210901Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2156

INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 1431

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN

SUBJ: US VOTE AT UNGA ON INVITATION TO PLO TO SPEAK

REF: WH42795, DTG O 141425Z OCT 74

1. I HAD PRIVATE MOMENT DURING ID-AL-FITR CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER  
SUWAIDI WHICH ENABLED ME TO GIVE REASONS FOR OUR NEGATIVE VOTE ON  
UNGA

RESOLUTION INVITING PLO TO PARTICIPATE IN UNGA DEBATE.

I SAID I WANTED

TO MAKE SURE THAT THERE WAS NO MISUNDERSTANDING AS TO REASONS FOR OUR  
VOTE. IT INDICATED NO CHANGE IN ANY WAY IN FIRM US POSITION THAT  
LEGITIMATE CONCERNS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE HAD TO BE TAKEN FULLY INTO  
ACCOUNT AND SUCCESSFULLY DEALT WITH IN CREATION  
OF ANY LASTING MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT. USG, HOWEVER, WAS ALONE  
AMONG COUNTRIES OF WORLD IN HAVING ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR HELPING  
PARTIES TO ENGAGE IN NEGOTIATION TOWARD THIS GOAL, AND THIS RESPON-  
SIBILITY REQUIRED US TO GIVE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO KEEPING PARTIES  
ON NEGOTIATING TRACK. REAL PROBLEM WAS HOW TO WEAVE PALESTINIANS  
CONSTRUCTIVELY INTO SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS; IT WAS NOT ONE OF  
ASSERTING

PALESTINIANS' RIGHTS BY UN RESOLUTION, AND INDEED, ON THIS OCCASION  
IT WAS OUR JUDGMENT THAT SUCH

ASSERTION WOULD HAVE EFFECT OF DAMAGING  
NEGOTIATING PROCESS, OUR NEGATIVE VOTE WAS MOTIVATED CHIEFLY  
BY THIS CONSIDERATION. I SAID I HOPED FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD

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HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN OUR POSITION TO SHAIKH ZAYID BEFORE

THEY DEPARTED FOR RABAT SUMMIT.

3. SUWAIDI REPLIED THAT WHILE HE WAS ALWAYS DISAPPOINTED WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRED ARABS AND US TO BE ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF VOTING LEDGER, HE NEVERTHELESS UNDERSTOOD REASONS WHY US HAD BEEN COMPELLED TO VOTE IN MANNER IT DID. HE SAID AS FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED, IMPORTANT THING WAS TO MAKE FURTHER PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HE BELIEVED WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS PALESTINIAN ISSUE WAS SUCCESSFULLY DEALT WITH.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING VOTING RECORDS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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